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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

in re application of

Docket No: Q63051

Toru TSUKADA, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/809,262

Confirmation No.: 6379

Group Art Unit: 3682

Filed: March 16, 2001

Examiner: Chong Hwa KIM

For: FEED SCREW DEVICE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please enter the following amended claim:

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17. (Amended) A feed screw device comprising:

GROUP 3600

a screw shaft;

a nut member threadably engaging an outer periphery of the screw shaft;

a lubricant supply device having an insertion hole formed in an outer periphery side thereof, said lubricant supply device coming in contact with the outer peripheral surface of said screw shaft, such that a portion of said lubricant supply device which contacts the outer peripheral surface of the screw shaft comprises a material including a lubricant;